

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABU DH 01531 091221Z

12

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 USIA-06 /016 W

----- 050126

R 090855Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2214

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E H S T I A L ABU DHABI 1531

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, TC, SY, US

SUBJ: US-UAE COOPERATION FOR SYRIAN SCHOLARSHIPS

REF: STATE 239379

1. WITH RESPECT TO QUESTIONS RAISED PARA 2 REFTTEL, SHAIKH ZAYID HAS BEEN OUT OF COUNTRY FOR PAST TWO WEEKS AND IT MAY BE SOME TIME BEFORE I HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS SUBJECT OF SYRIAN SCHOLARSHIPS WITH HI. IN GENERAL I WOULD PREFER NOT TO, UNLESS, AS A RESULT OF HIS RECENT EXTENDED TRIP TO SYRIA, E HAVE SOME INDICATION THAT ZAYID HAS CHANGED HIS MIND. THIS IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE IYDTHIS PART OF THE WORLD, BO T FOR TIME BEING THERE IS NO REASON TO ASSUME IT. IN MEANTIME I AM PROCEEDING ON BASIS OF EXPLICIT APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE WHICH HE GAVE ME ON OCTOBER 3 (ABU DHABI 1370) FOR ABU DHABI TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS WITH USG FOR SYRIANS TO STUDY IN US, AND EQUALLY EXPLICIT INDICATION HE GAVE ME ON SAME OCCASION THAT I SHOULD FOLLOW UP ON "DETAILS" WITH HIS SON SHAIKH SHALIF. IN MY JUDGMENT "DETAILS" PROBABLY INCLUDE SUCH QUESTIONS AS PRECISE NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS, COST PER STUDENT, HOW STUDENTS SHOULD BE SELECTED, AND MECHANISM FOR DISBURSEMENTS. I HAD OPPORTUNITY TO BROACH THESE MATTERS BRIEFLY WITH SHAIKH KHALIFA NOV 5 AND WILL FOLLOW UP WITH HIM ON EARLY OCCASION TO PIN DOWN ARRANGEMENTS AS FIRMLY AS POSSIBLE.

2. ON QUESTION WHETHER ABU DHABI OFFICIALS REALIZE THEY WOULD BE COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO FUNDING STUDENTS OVER PERIOD SEVERAL YEARS, I BELIEVE THEY DO, BUT THIS ASPECT HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WITH EITHER ZAYID OR KHALIFA AS YET. ON NEXT OCCASION  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ABU DH 01531 091221Z

I WILL TAKE THIS UP WITH KHALIFA, SAYING USG COMMITMENT TO FUNDING

OF ESTIMATED 10 STUDENTS IS ON BASIS THAT WE EXPECT TO SEE THEM THROUGH FULL COURSE OF STUDY. I WILL SEEK SIMILAR ASSURANCE FROM KHALIFA FOR ESTIMATED 10 STUDENTS THAT ABU DHABI WILL FINANCE.

3. AS TO COST PER STUDENT, I MENTIONED \$8,500/ANNUUM FIGURE TO KHALIFA AND HE EXPRESSED NO OBJECTION. ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISBURSING FUNDS, I SAID VARIOUS MECHANISMS WERE POSSIBLE, ONE BEING FOR GOVERNMENT TO OPEN DOLLAR ACCOUNT IN ABU DHABI BANK EARMARKED FOR THIS PURPOSE IN AMOUNT OF EXPECTED EXPENSES FOR FIRST YEAR (\$85,000). KHALIFA SAID THIS WAS DETAIL THAT DID NOT GREATLY MATTER TO HIM--ANYTHING THAT WE THOUGHT SENSIBLE WOULD BE OKAY WITH HIM.

4. IF THIS SEEMS MOST SENSIBLE ARRANGEMENT TO CU, I WILL PROPOSE TO KHALIFA WHEN I SEE HIM NEXT THAT DISBURSEMENTS FOR ACCOUNT BE MADE UNDER TWO SIGNATURES, ONE BEING REPRESENTATIVE DESIGNATED BY HIM AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF US EMBASSY. PAYMENTS WOULD BE MADE UPON JOINT APPROVAL OF BILLS SUBMITTED BY UNIVERSITIES OR AUTHORIZED ALLOWANCES PAID DIRECTLY TO STUDENT. BILLS WE ASSUME COULD BE SENT TO EMBASSY PRA CU OR AFME.

5. ON MECHANISM FOR SELECTING STUDENT AND COUNSELLING HIM ON CAMPUS, I DID NOT HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO GET INTO THIS WITH KHALIFA. IF AFME HANDLES THIS FOR US-FUNDED STUDENTS, IT SEEMS TO MAKE MOST SENSE TO HAVE SAME OUTFIT DO IT FOR ABU DHABI--FUNDED STUDENTS AS WELL. WHILE UAE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HAS ELECTED NOT TO HIRE AFME TO MANAGE THEIR OWN EMIRATES SCHOLARSHIPS TO US (THE CITED REASON IS THAT AFME IS OVERCHARGING FOR THEIR SERVICES), I DON'T BELIEVE KHALIFA WOULD OBJECT TO AFME HANDLING THEIR 10 SYRIAN SCHOLARSHIPS IF SARG IS WILLING TO HAVE IT PLAY THIS ROLE AND IF IT SEEMS SENSIBLE ARRANGEMENT TO US. DOES \$8,500 PER STUDENT PER YEAR FIGURE INCLUDE AFME COMMISSION?

6. I WILL SEEK EARLY OPPORTUNITY WITH KHALIFA TO REACH UNDERSTANDING ON THESE PRECISE ARRANGEMENTS. BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE AT THIS TIME TO GIVE HIM LETTER WHICH OUTLINES UNDERSTANDING IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL. KHALIFA WILL UNDOUBTEDLY WISH TO GO OVER MATTER ONCE AGAIN WITH HIS FATHER WITH LETTER IN HAND. WRITTEN REPLY TO US FROM KHALIFA STATING HE ACCEPTS ITS TERMS AND ARRANGEMENTS WOULD CONSTITUTE AGREEMENT. TEXT OF PROPOSED LETTER BY SEPTTEL.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ABU DH 01531 091221Z

7. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPT AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED AS OUTLINED ABOVE, AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSED LETTER TO SHAIKH KHALIFA. STERNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974ABUDH01531  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740323-0582  
**From:** ABU DHABI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741157/aaaabvym.tel  
**Line Count:** 110  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION CU  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 239379  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 AUG 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US-UAE COOPERATION FOR SYRIAN SCHOLARSHIPS  
**TAGS:** OEXC, TC, SY, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005